

lucinations are generally auditory or pertaining to the vision. Exceptionally, olfactory or gustatory.

The disease is curable if the patient is removed from the vitiated atmosphere, but more often it degenerates into an incurable dementia.

The question will arise with the reader if the author is not dealing with veritable cases of general paralysis caused by breathing an atmosphere of gases of carbon, rather than a distinctive disease, as Dr. Musso would have us believe. However this may be, we are indebted to him for calling the attention to these cases, and the possibility of such a condition arising in such an atmosphere.

Of the five cases reported, two recovered; the other three died. One occurred in a woman, the others in men who were bakers and shut up in small, close rooms with fires of charcoal.

GRACE PECKHAM.

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**Reflex Neuroses from Nasal Disease.**—*Med. Record*, Jan 30, 1886.

An interesting discussion on this subject was lately introduced in the New York Academy of Medicine, by a paper by Dr. E. Gruening, on the "Ocular Symptoms in Nasal Affections." Following in the wake of Hack, Fraenkel, Sommerbrodt, and others, who have demonstrated a connection between many neuroses and disease of the mucous membrane of the inferior turbinated bone, Dr. Gruening thought that a certain group of ocular symptoms, namely, lachrymation, sensitiveness to light, and redness of the eyes, which are frequently met with and have resisted all ordinary treatment, might be dependent upon the same diseased conditions, especially as the same symptoms can be produced at will in all eyes by mechanical irritation of the nasal mucous membrane. In his paper he reports a series of such cases, a few of the large number he has met with, all cured by treatment of the nasal disease.

Dr. Thomas A. McBride reported five cases of reflex disturbance (hemicrania, headache, neuralgia) arising from nasal disease, and cured by treatment of the latter. Dr. Beverly Robinson followed, dwelling at some length on the connection between hay-fever and asthma and nasal disease. It will be remembered that Hack, of Freiburg, originally pointed out the connection between migraine, asthma, hay-fever, supra- and infra-orbital neuralgia, and other neuroses to disease of the covering of the inferior turbinated bone. Since then his results have been confirmed by a number of clinicians. Hack reported 240 cases of hemicrania and 87 of asthma cured by destroying the erectile tissue over the inferior turbinated bone with the galvano-cautery. Although experience shows that the nasal irritation may be due to various forms of nasal disease, the most common is a peculiar swollen, puffed-up (not hyperplastic) condition of the covering of the in-

ferior turbinated bone, due to distension of the underlying erectile tissue. A most important point also is the fact that the nasal symptoms may be so slight as not to call attention to the nose.

MORTON PRINCE.

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#### MENTAL PATHOLOGY.

**Moral Imbecility.**—Dr. Hack Tuke (*Journal of Mental Science*, Oct., 1885) reports a case of a forty-two-year-old man who, from an early age, had been purposelessly cruel to animals and young children. He had made one successful assault on young girls and several unsuccessful attempts. He had been guilty of several minor and major crimes. "The very sight of blood had a strange effect on the man, and worked a wonderful transformation. His countenance assumed a pallid hue; he became nervous and restless, and unless he was where he could be watched, he lost control of himself and indulged in the proclivities for which he was notorious." Commenting on this case, Dr. Tuke says: "Is it not true, then, that men are born with organizations which prompt them to the commission of acts like those committed by this unfortunate, and that the lower instincts are in abnormal force, or the controlling power is weak? Such a man as this is a reversion to an old savage type, and is born by accident in the wrong century." In the discussion of this case by the Medical Psychological Association, Dr. Rayner said that moral insanity might be a persistent state persisting through the whole lifetime, but might also exist in the development of any psychosis. Dr. Chas. Cameron said that Dr. Tuke's case proved that moral attributes might be absent from a mind otherwise well endowed. Dr. Nugent was of opinion that cases of the type described were best designated as moral imbecility. Dr. Savage was of the like opinion. Dr. Tuke in closing the discussion agreed that such cases were best designated as moral imbecility.

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**Hæmaturia and Purpuric Extravasations in Typhomania.**—Dr. Geo. H. Savage (*Jour. of Mental Science*, Jan., 1886) reports a case of, what seems from the history to have been, typhomania (Bell's disease) which was associated with purpuric extravasations resembling bruises and hæmaturia. Ten days before admission to Bethlem Hospital the patient had pain in back of head and neck; he then became emotional and depressed, and the same evening was restless, which restlessness passed rapidly into mania. He became incoherent and violent, and had delusions that his wife was insane, his nurse wanted to poison him, and that he had waded through the shining river. On autopsy hæmorrhagic pachymeningitis was found, evidently of recent origin.